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(54) Searchable archive

(57) A searchable archiving system. A searchable archiving system includes one or more compacted files of archive data loosely coupled to a search process. To create a compacted file, an archiving process tokenizes the archive data, optimizes the tokenized archive data, and extracts archive metadata from the tokenized data. The tokenized data may then be compressed in a variety of ways into compressed segments that may be individually accessed and decompressed by the search agents.

Before compression, segment metadata is extracted from the segments. The compressed segments and segment metadata are then combined to create a compacted file. The search process accesses the compacted files by consulting locally stored archive metadata extracted from the files during the compaction process. The search process then invokes one or more search agents that actively search the compacted files. The search agents do so by using the segment metadata to identify segments to decompress and search.

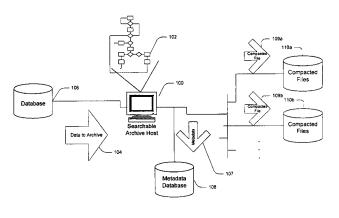


FIG. 1



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